

Catering Endorsement – Alcohol

A catering endorsement on a license allows the catering and sale of alcohol to people attending a catered event at a place not already licensed to sell alcohol.

Who can get one?

- Beer and Restaurant Beer and Wine (RBW) Licensees
16-4-111, MCA Beer and Wine
- All-Alcoholic Beverage Licensees
16-4-204, MCA All-Alcoholic Beverages

What can licensees do with a catering endorsement?

All Alcoholic Beverage Licenses

- Sell and serve alcohol beverages to persons attending a catered event.

Beer Licenses and Beer Licenses with a Wine Amendment

- Must be primarily in the business of providing meals with table service.
- Sell and serve beer or beer and wine (with the wine amendment) to persons attending a catered event.

RBW aka “Cabaret” Licenses

- Must be primarily in the business of providing meals with table service.
- Food sales at the event must equal in cost to 65% of the total gross revenue from the catering contract.
- Sell and serve beer and wine to persons attending a catered event.

You may cater a catered event if it is:

- Within 100 miles of your licensed premises.
- Not held at a location already licensed for alcohol sales.
- Not being held by you, the licensee.
- Sponsored by someone with a written agreement.

Alcohol may be stored at the event:

- One day prior to the event.
- During the event.
- One day following the conclusion of the event.

Note: Only the licensee and their employees can have access to the alcohol storage and in a secured location that prevents access by anyone other than the licensee or licensee’s employees.

Who can serve at a catered event?

- Employees of the licensee.
- Volunteers of the licensee.
- Alcoholic beverage manufacturers or vendors, their employees, or registered vendor representatives if:

- The licensee allows them.
 - They have a current license, registration, or permit from the department.
 - They are server trained prior to the commencement of the catered event.
 - A political subdivision of the state, or
 - A nonprofit business qualified under section 501(c)
- ✗ Don't sell alcohol to go.
- ✗ Concessionaires cannot cater an event.

Reporting:

- Notify local law enforcement using the ABCD form and pay \$35 before the event.
- Report the event to the department by the 15th of the following month through our TransAction Portal (TAP) at TAP.DOR.mt.gov.

*All licensees must comply with all Montana alcoholic beverage laws and rules.

Catering: 16-4-111, 16-4-204, MCA and ARM 42.12.128

Allowed:

- ✓ Catering an event within 600 feet of, and on the same street as a church or school as long as the church or school gives the written approval for the on-premises sale of alcohol where the event is to be held.

Not Allowed:

- ✗ Don't allow alcohol in the event area that was purchased somewhere else.
- ✗ Don't share revenue from the event unless the sponsor is:
- The State of Montana,

6.2020 (Please note that information in Department Communications may have been modified, superseded, or made obsolete by changes in federal or state law or the Administrative Rules of Montana. If you need to verify the current validity of any Department Communications, contact us.



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